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Commission on Narcotic Drugs
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Agenda item 5
Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

China, El Salvador and Russian Federation: revised draft resolution

Strengthening cooperation with the scientific community, including academia, and promoting scientific research in drug demand and supply reduction policies in order to find effective solutions to various aspects of the world drug problem

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Bearing in mind the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[1] in which ministers and government representatives acknowledged the need to scientifically evaluate drug supply reduction measures in order to direct government resources to initiatives that have proved to be successful in tackling the causes of the world drug problem,

Recalling the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[2] in which Member States undertook to ensure that drug demand

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

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reduction measures are based on scientifically sound assessments of the nature and extent of the drug problem, as well as on the social and cultural characteristics of the population in need,

Mindful of the need to respect internationally accepted standards for scientific research,

Reaffirming the commitments undertaken by the parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988[3] to facilitate the exchange of scientific information and the conduct of research on the eradication of illicit cultivation of narcotic plants,

Recalling its resolution 48/8 of 11 March 2005, entitled "Application of research in practice",

Convinced that the analysis of scientific data and the sharing of experience are of utmost importance in preventing the diversion of precursors and other substances under international control that are used in the illicit production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Underscoring the importance of further enhancing scientific analysis of challenges presented by current and emerging dangerous new substances, including new psychoactive substances, particularly their manufacture, patterns of use and adverse consequences, in order to support Member States in their drug demand and supply reduction efforts,

Recalling article 38 bis of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[4]

Taking into account that Member States develop various practical approaches addressing the world drug problem within the framework of the three international drug control conventions, and stressing the need to scientifically assess their effectiveness in achieving their goals, in particular in ensuring access to narcotic drugs for the relief of pain and suffering, while preventing their diversion or abuse,

Recognizing the need to increase investment in scientific evidence-based research and evaluation in order to properly implement and assess effective drug demand and supply reduction policies and related programmes,

1. *Notes* the initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to convene an informal international scientific network composed of scientists nominated by Member States, and invites the Office to continue this initiative, to communicate its outcomes to Member States in order to facilitate a closer dialogue between Member States and the scientific community, including academia, and to brief Member States periodically on the status of the initiative;

2. *Takes note of* the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which constitute an important tool summarizing the scientific literature currently available and serving as a practical guide for policymakers worldwide, and invites the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to consider the further development of practical scientific evidence-based guidelines, for example on treatment, that may include

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[4] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

appropriate measures to reduce significantly the misuse of internationally controlled drugs and psychotropic substances, while promoting their adequate availability for medical, scientific and industrial purposes;

3. *Underlines* the need for Member States to cooperate closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, the International Narcotics Control Board and other international and regional organizations, as well as the scientific community, including academia, in contributing to the scientific assessment of drug demand and supply reduction policies, drug markets and drug-related crime;

4. *Welcomes* the action points of the expert consultation on new psychoactive substances held jointly by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization in Vienna in December 2014, and calls upon Member States to continue to deepen knowledge of the threats posed by such substances, in close cooperation with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other relevant international and regional organizations, as well as the scientific community, including academia;

5. *Supports* the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board to develop, coordinate and publish the results of research on precursors of narcotic drugs in collaboration with the international scientific community in order to better understand emerging clandestine manufacturing and drug abuse trends;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of scientific laboratories, including the Laboratory and Scientific Section of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in assisting Member States, upon request, in the formulation of scientific evidence-based demand and supply reduction policies, and encourages Member States to strengthen the capability of existing scientific laboratories and to undertake efforts to establish new scientific laboratories as necessary;

7. *Encourages* Member States to continuously share the latest scientific research, taking into account contributions of the national, regional and international scientific community, including academia, on the most effective demand and supply reduction strategies, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international laws, and taking into account the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem;[2]

8. *Invites* Member States and other donors to consider providing extrabudgetary resources for the purposes of the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

9. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission, at its fifty-ninth session, on progress in implementing the present resolution.